

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING  
*of the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
*and the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 24, 1999

**1. Call to order.**

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Elizabeth Cheadle at 8:03 p.m. on June 24, 1999, at the Bel Air Presbyterian Church, 16221 Mulholland Drive, Los Angeles, California.

**2. Roll call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Begley, Jr., Jerome Daniel, John Hisserich, Steve Horn, Michael Berger, Vice-Chair, and Elizabeth Cheadle, Chair. The following members were absent: Lindsey Kozberg, Mary Nichols, and Jeffrey Schwartz. Quorum present.

**3. Roll call of Advisory Committee.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director, the Chair, and Ms. Collins.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Mr. Bruce Saito, as the appointee for the Speaker of the Assembly.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Kathy Caldwell, Mark Johnson, Fran Pavley, Paul Rockenstein, Bruce Saito, George Lange, Vice-Chair, and Alan Kishbaugh, Chair. The following members

SMMC Joint Meeting Minutes

June 24, 1999

Page 2

were in attendance subsequent to roll call: Dave Brown. The following members were absent: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, David Green, Patrick Hunter, Clare Marter Kenyon, Linda Palmer, Rick Putnam, Carolyn Van Horn, and Kenneth Warner. Quorum was not present.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Belinda Faustinos, Chief Deputy Executive Director; Laurie Collins, Chief of Legal and Real Estate Division; Rorie Skei, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Operations; Walt Young, Chief Ranger; Janeen Parker, Chief of Education and Interpretation; Reva Concoff, Chief of Staff; Kathleen Bullard, Director of the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens; Randy Kaplan, Law Clerk; and Dawn De Vere, Board Secretary.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Terry Fujimoto, Deputy Attorney General.

#### **4. Reports**

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chair and Mr. Hisserich.

[Mr. Brown arrived at 8:12 p.m.]

Comments were made by the Chair.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Fujimoto and the Executive Director.

#### **5. Oral reports by staff.**

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Walt Young, Chief Ranger.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Janeen Parker, Chief of Education and Interpretation.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Rorie Skei,

Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

**6. Report from budget and legislative committee.**

This report was given during item 4.

**7. Presentation regarding Dirt Mulholland.**

The presentation was made by Patricia Bell Hearst, representing the Federation of Hillside and Canton Associations, and Chuck Milbourne, Susanna Belcher, and Michael Belcher, representing Friends of Caballero Canyon.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Pavley.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**8. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.**

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Dorian Keyser, representing Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, on item 11

Gordon Murley, representing Woodland Hills Homeowner San Fernando Valley Federation, on items 7 and 11.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Frank Kortum, individual, on item 17.

Rosemary Woodlock, individual, on item 7.

Roger Pugliese, Topanga Association for a Scenic Community (TASC), on items 12 and 16.

Don Mulloly, individual, on item 11 and 17.

Mark Jason, individual, on item 12.

Dr. Kay Austen, representing Tuna United Neighborhood Association (TUNA), on item 12.

Malcolm Lesavoy, representing TASC and TUNA, on item 12.

Sherman Stacey, individual, on item 12.

Pete Weeger, individual, on item 12.

Don Schmitz, individual, on item 12.

Questions were propounded by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Betsey Landis, representing California Native Plant Society, on items 7 and 18.

Susan Genelin, individual, on items 7 and 11.

Melinda Becker, representing Monte Nido Valley Community Association, on item 18.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Mr. Brown.

**9. Consent Calendar:**

- a) **Consideration of resolution commemorating Gene Autry in the Fryman Canyon Natural Area.**
- b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of 2.5 acres, formerly known as the Healing property, located in Tuna Canyon from the California State Coastal Conservancy. [Coastal Zone item]**
- c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority Joint Powers Agreement.**

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 99-64, 99-65, and 99-66.

Comments were made by Mr. Horn.

*(The full text of these resolutions is attached.)*

**10. Review and discussion of brush clearance policy on Santa Monica Mountains**

**Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority property within the City of Los Angeles.**

Mr. Young presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

**11. Discussion of presentations regarding Sierra Club acquisition priorities and Santa Susana Mountain Park Association acquisition priorities.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Pavley.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Public comment was reopened at 10:00 p.m. to allow the Advisory Committee to participate in discussions.

Questions were propounded by Susan Genelin, individual, on item 11.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Pavley.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**12. Consideration and possible action concerning upper Tuna Canyon watershed properties. [Coastal Zone item]**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Hisserich, duly seconded, this item was postponed.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, the Executive Director, Mr. Horn.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown and the Chair.

**13. Consideration and possible action concerning 250-acre Rustan property adjacent to Placerita Canyon Park, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report on this item.

Comments were made by the Chair and Messrs. Brown and Berger.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted staff recommendation.

*(The full text of staff recommendation is attached.)*

Questions were propounded by Sherman Stacey, individual, on item 12.

Comments were made by the Chair.

**14. Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Consultation for Tentative Tract No. 52805, 3155 Kanan Road.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

The Executive Director recommended correcting a typo in the comment letter.

Comments were made by the Chair.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 99-67.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**15. Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter to the City of Calabasas on Park South Subdivision, Parcel Map No. 23594.**

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Berger, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 99-68.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**16. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into an agreement to trade the Marquez Canyon property for the Otting-Elrita Bowl property and 40 acres abutting Red Rock Canyon Park. [Coastal Zone item]**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Comments were made by the Chair and Mr. Brown.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chair and the Executive Director.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Hisserich, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 99-69.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**17. Consideration of resolution approving Sunshine Canyon Landfill Mitigation Proposal to the Los Angeles City Council.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown and the Chair.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Berger, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 99-70 authorizing the Chair and staff counsel to send a position statement to the City Council regarding mitigation measures.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**18. Consideration of resolution adopting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 99/00 preliminary budget.**

Comments were made by the Chair.

Ms. Lethbridge presented the staff report for this item.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hisserich, the Chair, and Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and recommended that the Conservancy authorize the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to adopt an interim spending plan pending resolution of outstanding financial issues.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Berger, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 99-71, as amended.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**19. Consideration of resolution adopting revised Incompatible Activities Statement.**

This item was postponed.

**20. Minutes**

The open session minutes of the regular and special meetings of May 27, 1999 were submitted for approval.



CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

The open session minutes of the regular and special meetings of May 27, 1999 were approved as submitted. Mr. Daniel was recorded as abstaining.

Comments were made by Messrs. Rockenstein and Brown.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Kishbaugh.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

- 21. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Village Properties v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Tucker Land Company*; *Los Amigos De Caballero Canyon v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; *Huebner v. State of California*; and *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; *Save Open Space v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority*; *Save Open Space v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (Real Parties in Interest)*.**

The Chair called a closed session at 10:46 p.m. pursuant to Section 11126 *et seq.* of the Government Code to discuss agenda item 21 and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority agenda item XII.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 10:54 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to Staff Counsel in connection with a settlement conference and preparation for trial concerning *Huebner v. State of California*.

- 22. Members comments on matters not on the Agenda.**

Comments were made by Mr. Begley and the Chair.

- 23. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on August 26, 1999.

SMMC Joint Meeting Minutes

June 24, 1999

Page 10

Comments were made by the Executive Director, the Chair, and Mr. Berger.

The Executive Director announced that the November and December meetings would be combined and held on December 9, 1999.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP  
Executive Director

ELIZABETH CHEADLE  
Chairperson